

A HIGHWAY NUISANCE

ACCORDING to advices from the Minnesota state highway commission, the statement that under a new law automobiles foreign to Minnesota must pay licenses in that state, the money going into the Minnesota road fund, is inaccurate. These advices are to the effect that during the first ten days in the state neither license nor registration is required, and that for more than ten days and up to two months, the outside tourist in Minnesota may register without cost to himself. These rules do not apply to trucks, cabs, busses and other commercial vehicles not resident in Minnesota. The latter must have a license under the Minnesota law.

This interpretation is somewhat different than that put upon the Minnesota law by some Wisconsin traffic departments. Probably it is accurate, and therefore it substantially alters the situation. However, it does not entirely change it, nor does it alter the fact that Wisconsin should have a law similar to that of Minnesota insofar as commercial vehicles coming from that state are concerned. If our busses and commercial travelers must help to pay for Minnesota roads, Minnesota commercial vehicles traveling in this state should help pay for Wisconsin roads.

On the whole the law seems mere trifling with the highway problem. Whenever a state adopts such a law the surrounding states are pretty sure to follow suit. Soon the idea will extend throughout the country. And when every state had adopted it the amount that any state secures through operation of the law will be approximately offset by the amount which citizens of that state pay into the highway

funds of other states. No doubt it is little more than a nuisance.